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ENTERED AT NEW YORK POST OFFICE, AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

“THE WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA.”

The Greatest Success of the Times.

It's only a few days since the first of the Portfolios of “Wild Flowers of America” was ready for distribution and yet its reception seems already as if the whole nation was singing its praises. From College Presidents, Botanical Professors—teachers of all kinds, Senators, Congressmen, Lawyers, Doctors, Students and the great mass of thinking people, letters of the warmest commendation are pouring in, filling the mails, and constituting at once a demonstration rarely, if ever, approached in the history of popular publications in America. From the mass of letters we publish a few, selecting mostly those of college graduates and others whose actual experience makes them judges of the work they are writing about. We are just as grateful for the letters and telegrams and postal cards from the tens of thousands of young women and young men, whose admiration seems boundless; and may at another time show appreciation of them.

A National Work Receives a National Testimonial.

J. HAVENS RICHARDS, President Georgetown College, West Washington, D. C.:

“The beauty and artistic excellence of the colored drawings are worthy of high praise, * * * and I am confident that by its attraction many young people will be led to undertake and pursue with the greatest pleasure a study which they might otherwise find distasteful.”

J. V. COCKRILL, Congressman, Thirteenth District, Texas, Graduate of Chapel Hill College, Ex-District Judge:

“Is both beautiful and interesting.”

A. C. HARMER, Congressman, Philadelphia, representing Fifth District, Pennsylvania:

“I have carefully examined Mr. Buek's works of the ‘Wild Flowers of America,’ and think them exquisite.”

DAN WAUGH, Congressman Ninth District, Indiana, Ex-Circuit Judge, member Seventh Agricultural Committee, House of Representatives:

“I regard it an excellent work of art, which would be an adornment to any library.”

CHAMP CLARK, Congressman Ninth District, Missouri, Graduate Bethany College, W. Va., Ex-President Marshall College, W. Va.

GEO. W. SMITH, Congressman Twentieth District, Illinois, Graduate McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill.:

“A valuable, beautiful and instructive book, and should be in every school-room in the land.”

E. H. FUNSTON, Congressman, Second District, Kansas, Graduate Marietta College, Ohio, Ex-President State Senate:

“In my judgment, will be a most valuable acquisition to the libraries of those who love the beautiful in nature.”

CHAS. H. MORGAN, Congressman, Fifteenth District, Missouri:

“Deserves and will receive the encomiums from all lovers of the beautiful, and its correctness and completeness make it one of the most valuable contributions to American literature.”



— 97 —

SCARLET HONEYSUCKLE, TRUMPET HONEYSUCKLE.

LONICERA SEMPER-VIRENS.

MAY TO OCTOBER.



— 98 —

BUNCH-BERRY.

CORNUS CANADENSIS.

MAY.

PLATE 97.

SCARLET HONEYSUCKLE, TRUMPET HONEYSUCKLE. LONICERA SEMPERVIRENS.
(HONEYSUCKLE FAMILY.)

Somewhat woody; stems climbing, almost herbaceous towards the summit; leaves opposite, the lower petioled, upper sessile, uppermost with connate bases, ovate, short-mucronate, glaucous beneath; flowers in approximate whorls at the summit of the stem; corolla tubular, lower part narrow, upper comparatively open.

“And bid her steal into the pleached bower,
Where Honeysuckles, ripened by the sun,
Forbid the sun to enter;—like favorites
Made proud by princes, that advance their pride
Against that power that bred it.”—*Shakespeare.*



THE honeysuckles have ever been great favorites. A rustic cottage with latticed porch o'ergrown with honeysuckle is the poet's ideal abode of contented peace. The heroines of poesy are always to be found in bowers of roses and honeysuckle. It entertains as its especial guests the humming-bird by day and the sphinx-moth by night.

While the common cultivated honeysuckles, *Lonicera Caprifolium* and *Lonicera Japonica*, are admired for their entrancing fragrance, the Scarlet Honeysuckle, one of the handsomest and showiest of the genus, is wanting in perfume. Its long scarlet corollas have a pale yellow lining. In Nature, as in Art, vermilion seems a costly dye. When bestowed upon a flower, it paints usually only the outside of the corolla, the inner surface being dipped in a less regal hue. The Scarlet Honeysuckle ranges from Southern New England, southward and westward, but strays northward. It is most abundant in the mountains, flowering in early summer.

PLATE 98.

BUNCH-BERRY. CORNUS CANADENSIS. (DOGWOOD FAMILY.)

Suffrutescent; stems less than a foot high, almost herbaceous, from slender, creeping, woody rootstocks; foliage leaves opposite, crowded at the summit of the stem so as to simulate a whorl; flowers small, greenish-white, in a capitate cluster with an involucre of four white leaves.



WHEN Spring has yielded her sceptre to young Summer, and glorious June has come glowing with life and passion, the deep, cool woods shelter some flowers that breathe the spirit of an earlier month. Such is the Bunch-berry, which opens its small greenish flowers in the midst of four white leaves that look like petals. This smallest of our dogwoods may be met with

“In its lone and lonely nook
On the mossy bank.”

almost anywhere in moist Northern woods, and in the higher mountains southward. It is like a reproduction in miniature of its showy cousin, the Flowering Dogwood, that brightens our woods with its arboreal snow-drifts in early spring. To those who are not in the secret, its stems seem to bear but a single large flower above the circle of leaves. But if we examine this apparently solitary blossom we will find that there is really a dense cluster of tiny flowers, each with its own corolla. The four large white “petals” are really not petals at all, but bracts. In late summer a little “bunch” of brilliant scarlet berries renews the beauty of the plant, hence the popular name.



— 99 —
 WAVY-LEAVED ASTER.
ASTER UNDULATUS.
 JULY.



— 100 —
 LONG-LEAVED STARWORT, STITCHWORT.
STELLARIA LONGIFOLIA.
 JUNE.

PLATE 99.

WAVY-LEAVED ASTER. *ASTER UNDULATUS*. (SUNFLOWER FAMILY.)

Rootstock short, woody; stem erect, much branched, rather minutely hoary-pubescent, as are the leaves, often four feet high; root-leaves long-petioled, ovate, cordate, crenate; lower stem-leaves on winged petioles, upper sessile and clasping, entire; heads racemously disposed on the branches, forming a large, terminal panicle, rather small.



T often seems as if the flowers were glad to be alive. Bryant felt this when he wrote—

“Have ye no joy of all your bursting buds,
And fragrant blooms, and melody of birds
To which your young leaves shiver?”

Is there any one who has watched the Venus' Fly-Trap imprisoning in its wondrous grasp some wretched little insect, who can avoid a sense of a cruel intelligence in the plant? And in the autumn, when we look into the faces of the Asters that bow to us so trustfully as we pass,—are they mere masses of senseless vegetable tissue, in no way in touch with the soul of the Universe?

Of the Asters, the wavy-leaved Aster is one of the earliest to flower. In the South it has unrolled its azure rays and has begun to open its yellow disk flowers before the end of August. In September it is well out everywhere. The color of the strap-shaped rays is a clear light blue, without the purple tinge the Aster flowers usually have. The disk-flowers are yellow when they first open, but soon deepen to a rich purple-red that harmonizes admirably with the cerulean rays. *Aster undulatus* is a plant of dry soil, preferring rocky thickets and hillsides.

PLATE 100.

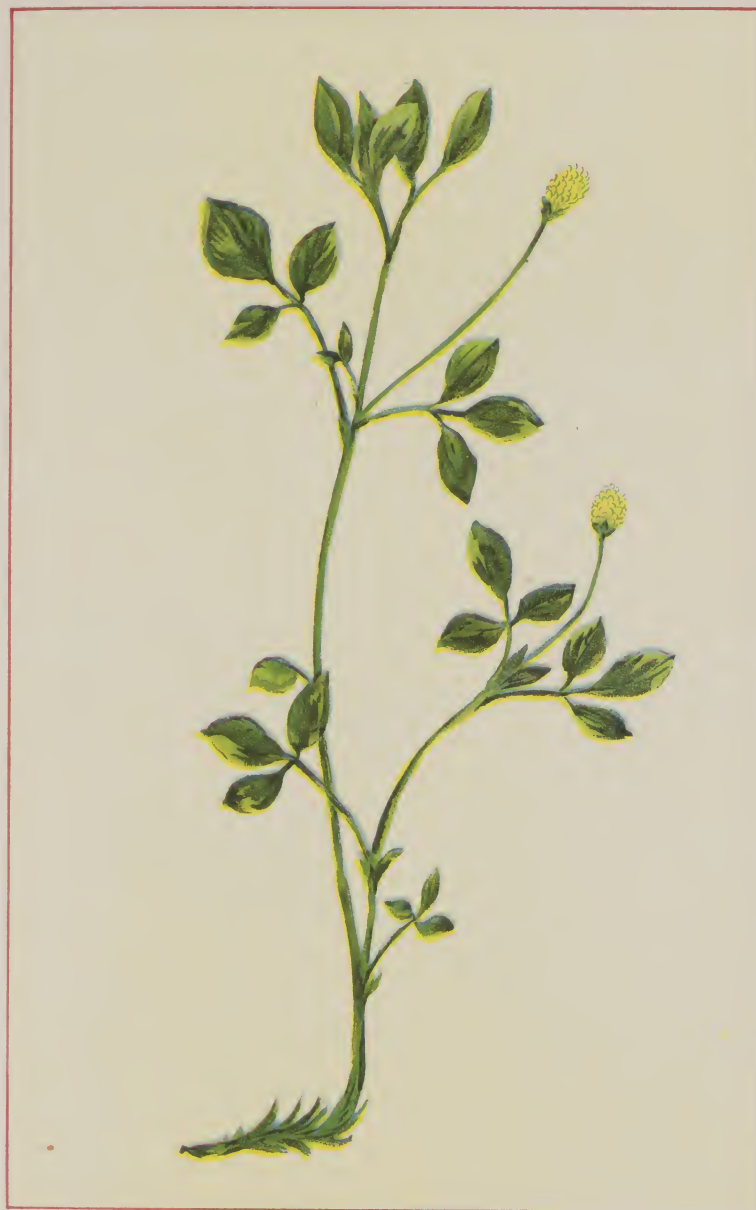
LONG-LEAVED STARWORT, STITCHWORT. *STELLARIA LONGIFOLIA*. (PINK FAMILY.)

Quite smooth; stems erect or nearly so, widely branching, very slender; leaves opposite, sessile, linear, acute, mid-vein rather prominent; flowers on slender pedicels, in a bracted cyme; petals five, two-parted, white, longer than the sepals; stamens ten.



LONG-LEAVED STARWORT dwells in moist grassy meadows and in bogs, in the northern part of North America. It has not been found south of the Middle States. It often grows with the Small Bedstraw and the Marsh Bellflower. Like these, it has small white flowers, and weak, often roughened, stems that recline on the grasses or other plants among which it grows. The tiny white stars open in midsummer. The Long-leaved Starwort or Stitchwort, as it is often called, is a near relative of the little chickweed that is such an inveterate pest in gardens. The most showy of our native species is *Stellaria Pubera*, a denizen of rocky woods, which has large white flowers with dark anthers. The Starwort is a token of “Afterthought.”

The Starworts are of a group of weed-like plants with small, insignificant flowers that belong to a family renowned for the splendor of its often exquisitely perfumed blossoms. The species of *Lychnis*, *Dianthus* and *Silene*,—the Cockles, Pinks and Catchflies,—are the showiest of plants. It is a striking instance of the unexpected relationships that careful study brings to light,—that of the royal Carnation and the humble Stitchwort. It is but a step from the homely to the beautiful, from the lowly to the proud.



— 101 —
BLACK MEDICK.
MEDICAGO LUPULINA.
MAY.



— 102 —
PURPLE FRINGED ORCHIS.
HABENARIA FIMBRIATA.
JULY.

PLATE 101.

BLACK MEDICK. *MEDICAGO LUPULINA*. (PEA FAMILY.)

Fibrous-rooted annual; stems from procumbent to almost erect, much-branched, hirsute; lower leaves on long, upper on short petioles, trifoliate; leaflets broadly orbicular or obovate, emarginate, dentate; flowers in cylindrical heads; corolla small, pale yellow; pod reniform, wrinkled, almost black.



THE grassy roadsides, from early summer to frost, an inconspicuous, usually prostrate, plant with small heads of yellow flowers may be noticed. It has trefoil leaves, and we take it for a yellow-flowered clover. But is it? Let us examine the tiny, roughened, black seed-pods. They are quite different from those of the clover. No, this is the Black Medick, sometimes known as "None-such," a near relative of the clovers. It has come from the Old World, perhaps with clover-seed, and is now thoroughly at home in a great part of North America. It is especially widespread on the Atlantic Coast.

The name Medick is an anglicization of the botanical name *Medicago*, said to be derived from *Media*, the home of one of the species. Our plant is called Black Medick, because of the color of its pods. The proud title of None-such it owes to its reputation in Europe as a forage plant. It is not used for that purpose here, though its relative, the Lucerne or Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), is coming into favor in that regard. The lucerne is an erect, handsome plant, with bright green foliage and clusters of showy purple flowers, quite unlike its poor relation, the humble none-such.

PLATE 102.

PURPLE FRINGED ORCHIS. *HABENARIA FIMBRIATA*. (ORCHIS FAMILY.)

Whole plant smooth; roots clustered, fibrous, thickened; stem tall, strict, leafy, with a few sheathing scales at base; leaves ovate-lanceolate, obtuse, clasping, parallel-veined; flowers in a terminal, bracted raceme, large, purple; lips stalked, three-parted, deeply fringed; spur quite long.



HERE is a pleasure in finding one of our shy orchids unfelt with any other plant. What a "dear, delicious thrill" it gives one to come upon a lady's-slipper in the forest depths, or a meadow bright with calopogons? These flowers are always strange to us, though we may have gathered them year after year, though we may have studied their minutest cell. They are not near to us as the rose and lily are. They are apart, unfamiliar, almost uncanny.

None of the orchids of temperate North America make a finer show than the Purple Fringed Orchis. It is superb, as it rises from meadow or bog. "Why does it grow there only," asks Thoreau, "far in a swamp, remote from public view?" It is somewhat fragrant, reminding one of the lady's slipper. Is it not significant that some rare and delicate and beautiful flowers should be found only in unfrequented wild swamps? Yet this, surely, is not a fault in the flower. A beautiful flower must be simple, not spiked. It must have, like this, a fair stem and leaves.

The flowers of the Purple Fringed Orchis are of a lovely lilac hue, the large lip delicately fringed. It grows from Canada south to North Carolina.



— 103 —

BLANKET FLOWER.

GAILLARDIA ARIFOLIA.



— 104 —

WATER KNOTWEED.

POLYGONUM AMPHIBIA.

PLATE 103.

BLANKET-FLOWER. GAILLARDIA AMBLYODON. (SUNFLOWER FAMILY.)

More or less hairy annual; stem erect, slender, round, not exceeding two feet in height, sparingly branched; leaves alternate, clasping, auriculate at base, oblong or ovate, sparingly toothed or entire, midrib rather prominent; heads large, solitary, terminating the branches, with numerous brownish rays about one inch long.



IT is difficult to realize the great diversity of the North American flora until one becomes a traveler and explorer. A journey of a few hundred miles in any direction brings one into the midst of an entirely new plant-life. If we start from Hudson's Bay or the coast of Labrador, where the vegetation is essentially Arctic, we will encounter a different set of plants in Canada and the Northern States, another along the Atlantic Coast, a fourth in the Appalachian region, a fifth in the pine-barren country of the Gulf States, and a distinctly tropical flora in Southern Florida. Westward we will find that the Mississippi Valley has its peculiar plants, so has the Plains region, and Texas, and the Rockies and the Pacific Coast. What flower can at once blossom under the shadow of a snow-clad peak and in the torrid sands of New Mexico? As well might Norway and Southern Italy try to agree on the same floral emblem!

Two great families that dominate the landscape of the prairies are the Grass Family and the Sunflower Family. To the last belong the handsome Gaillardias. These are, like most of the proper prairie flowers, exceedingly showy. The rays are of a fine shade of maroon, a color that often occurs among the western composites. The appearance of the bright-colored heads makes one think of them as sunbeams caught and held to earth for a space.

PLATE 104.

WATER KNOTWEED. POLYGONUM AMPHIBIUM. (BUCKWHEAT FAMILY.)

Stems branching below, creeping in mud or water, rooting at the joints, erect or ascending and unbranched above; leaves alternate on long petioles from membranaceous sheaths, ovate-oblong, obtuse, smooth, rounded or heartshaped at base; flowers in terminal, spike-like racemes.

"Rosy Polygonum, lake-margin's pride."



MERSON paints the Water Knotweed with one stroke of his skillful brush. No multiplication of adjectives could serve to indicate better the appearance and habit of this pretty aquatic. They are fascinating plants, these water growers. In the sweltering heat of the dog-days, how one envies them their cool, delightful home. See how yonder pond-weed and spearwort wanton in their perennial bath. These do not content themselves with a short plunge, only to emerge again into the blistering air. They revel in a constant wetness, needing no rain or dew to refresh them. In winter their roots find snug, unfrozen hiding-places in the soft mud of pond or stream.

The Water Knotweed is a common enough plant throughout the North Temperate Zone. Not only in North America is it at home, but in Europe and in Asia. With us it is most abundant in the North, being rarely met with south of Maryland and the Ohio Valley. The lower part of the stem creeps in mud or sand under the water, like the rootstocks of the water-lily. The upper part, bearing the smooth green leaves and the spikes of crimson blossoms, rises above the surface.

PLATE 105.

BLOOD-ROOT. SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS. (POPPY FAMILY.)

Acaulescent perennial with orange-red juice ; rootstock short, thick, usually branching ; leaves on long petioles, broadly reniform, deeply lobed, lobes usually seven, glaucous, especially beneath ; flowers solitary, long-peduncled ; sepals two, soon falling ; petals numerous, oblong, pure white ; stamens many.



IN the open, leafless woods of April, in the North, but southward as early as March, one of our most beautiful wild-flowers—the Sanguinaria—greet the wanderer. Out of the rich leaf-mould, on separate stalks, spear-shaped leaf buds and conical flower buds shoot up. The latter open first, into white corollas of several petals, guarding a golden heart of stamens. The leaves unfold more slowly. They are odd leaves, prettily lobed, and covered with a glaucous bloom. Flowers more chaste than those of the blood-root, the all-beholding sun does not gaze upon. They are stainless, without trace of the black mould which gives them birth. Dark decay is transformed to unsullied purity !

The Blood-root has a red juice which flows if the plant be wounded ; hence the name, Sanguinaria.

“ Sanguinaria, from whose brittle stem
The red drops fall like blood,”—

wrote Bryant. One feels a guilty sense of having murdered a living thing, when he plucks the blood-root. The thick rootstock is full of the vital fluid. This orange-red juice abounds in the Poppy Family, though not usually of so vivid a color as in the Sanguinaria. It is very acrid to the taste. The rootstock was formerly much valued in medicine. Ours is the only species of Sanguinaria.

PLATE 106.

BUR-MARIGOLD. BIDENS LÆVIS (CHRYSANTHEMOIDES). (SUNFLOWER FAMILY.)

Whole plant glabrous ; stem erect, sometimes four or five feet high, branching, angled ; leaves opposite, sessile, oblong-lanceolate, coarsely serrate, acuminate, rather thin, bright green ; heads large, terminating the branches ; involucre of numerous bracts ; rays eight or ten, broadly ovate, bright yellow.



ALMOST all the burs are produced by late summer or autumn flowers. Mayhap it is then that the struggle for existence is fiercest and the necessity for scattering the seeds is greatest. Besides the Sweet Cicely and the Wild Comfrey, one can recall very few spring flowers that have prickly or otherwise bur-like fruit. Among the commonest and most persistent of the fall weeds that attach their seeds by means of hooks or barbs to our clothing and to the hair of animals, are the Spanish Needle, *Bidens bipinnata*, and the Stick-tight, *Bidens frondosa*. These are unsightly plants, the yellowish flowers being borne in rayless heads. But a near relative, *Bidens lævis*, is one of the showiest autumnal flowers of ditches and bogs. Its large heads are circled by bright, golden-yellow rays. These, with the smooth, fresh green leaves give it an air of elegance. It is not a very common plant, and is thus prevented from becoming the nuisance that its vulgar congeners are. The Bur-Marigold is so called because of its resemblance, at a distance, to the yellow-flowered Marsh-Marigold, whose place it takes in the autumn flora. The Latin name, *Bidens*, refers to the *teeth* or awns of the seeds, usually *two* in number.



— 105 —
BLOOD ROOT.
SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS.
 MAY.



— 106 —
BUR MARIGOLD.
BIDENS LAEVIS (CHRYSANTHEMOIDES).
 AUGUST.

PLATE 107.

CAMASS, WILD HYACINTH. CAMASSIA ESCULENTA. (LILY FAMILY.)

Scape naked, rising from a rather large, scaly bulb; leaves clustered at the base, long, linear; flowers few in a bracted raceme, large, on rather long pedicels; sepals six, lanceolate, acute, deep blue; stamens six; fruit an obovate, three-celled capsule.



ONE of the best known and most often described of English wild-flowers is the common Wild Hyacinth or Bluebell, *Scilla nonscripta*, an imitation, so to speak, of the cultivated *Hyacinthus orientalis*. It is an exquisitely fragrant plant, beloved of the poets. Keats sings of the

"Shaded Hyacinth, always sapphire Queen of the Mid-May."

We have no true *Scilla*, but our Camass is a closely related plant, much like the Wild Hyacinth of England in appearance, though lacking its delightful perfume. Many of our plants are unfragrant, while their Old World cousins are deliciously odorous. But we may console ourselves with the reflection that there are peculiar perfumes among our flowers, all our own. The incense of the Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra*), for instance, is strictly American.

The Esculent Camass is a plant of the northwestern plains. Its superb, dark blue flowers are among the floral wealth of the prairies.

The name Quamash or Camass is of Indian origin. It is always pleasant to come across plants with Indian names. They are almost sure to be melodious and suggestive. They prove that long before the pale faces ever saw the wild-flowers of our country, the red men knew and loved their graceful blossoms.

PLATE 108.

SPURREY. SPERGULA ARVENSIS. (PINK FAMILY.)

Annual; stems clustered, much branched, ascending, pubescent; leaves narrowly linear, in whorls; flowers on slender, hispid pedicels, in minutely-bracted, terminal, dichotomous cymes; sepals five, pubescent; petals five, white, not longer than the calyx; stamens usually ten; pod short ovoid, somewhat exceeding the calyx.



THE place to see European weeds," writes Burroughs, "is in America. They run riot here. They are like boys out of school, leaping all bounds." The reason for this is that in Europe so much of the land is cultivated that the weeds are pent up in corners. They are rigidly kept down, and prevented from spreading into the fields. They are like children under a taskmaster's eye, longing for the woods and the meadows. But when they have established themselves here they have the whole continent to roam over. Their energies, long confined, burst forth and defy all discipline. They break through every restraint and spread hither and yon, often into cultivated fields, little fearing the slovenly attacks that are apt to be made upon them.

The Spurrey is one of these fast-spreading Old World plants. In a comparatively short time it has been sown broadcast in the Atlantic Coast region, often extending far inland. It is an inconspicuous plant, yet it is not wanting in beauty for those who care for more than the showy loveliness of large flowers. The narrow, clustered leaves and the white petals have a certain delicacy about them, as if the Spurrey had seen better days—had been born to something better than a tramp life.



— 107 —
CAMASS, WILD HYACINTH,
CAMASSIA ESCULENTA.



— 108 —
SPURREY.
SPERGULA ARVENSIS.
MAY.

PLATE 109.

TALINUM. TALINUM TERETIFOLIUM. (PURSLANE FAMILY.)

Stems clustered, rising from a short, thick rootstock, scaly with the vestiges of fallen leaves; leaves clustered near the base, fleshy, narrow, rendered terete by the involled margins; flowers in minutely-bracted, long-peduncled cymes; petals five, pale pink, fugacious; stamens numerous; capsule three-celled.

"Scarce less the cleft-born wild-flower seems to enjoy
Existence, than the winged plunderer
That sucks its sweets."—Bryant.



DOES not the Columbine or saxifrage, that strikes its roots into crevices in the living rock and expands its flowers in the open air, revel in its life? How their buds leap from the narrow prison-house into the glad sun-light! These cliff-dwellers are like ships riding at anchor with sails spread,—one fancies they chafe for freedom.

Talinum teretifolium is a close ally of our pretty little Spring-beauties, as well as of that much-maligned garden-weed, the purslane. It is, oddly enough, confined to serpentine rocks, fixing its rootstock in what scanty soil has collected in their clefts. It grows there only perhaps because the rock in decay supplies just the food needed by the plant. It expands its handsome, rose-purple flowers under the influence of the hottest sunshine, in which it seems to gladden. The flowers last but a short time. They pay the price of speedy death for over-indulgence in light and warmth. It obeys the stern law of compensation. Flowers that open in cool shades last the longest.

PLATE 110.

THREE-LEAVED GINSENG. ARALIA TRIFOLIA. (GINSENG FAMILY.)

Plant low, perennial; stem simple, erect, slender, weak, rising from a hard, rounded tuber; leaves three in a whorl, long petioled, compound, leaflets three to five, oblong or oblanceolate, sharply serrate; flowers small, white, in a long-stalked umbel, succeeded by a few greenish-yellow berries.

"The rose that lives its little hour
Is prized beyond the sculptured flower."—Bryant.



THE poet might have used the pigweed or the shepherd's purse for his comparison. Art is long, but Nature is eternal. All the masterpieces of sculptor or of painter are as naught compared with the humblest living animal or plant. The former are the phantom work of brush and chisel. The latter is molded by an enginery universal as space, patient as time! The tiny flowers of the Ginseng are worth more than all the fluted columns of the Parthenon. These are beautiful with the beauty of mere ornament.

But those possess the higher beauty of breathing, responsive adaptation; they have learned in the school of experience to parry their every enemy, to strengthen all helpful ties.

The Three-leaved Ginseng is often met with in rich low woods. The cluster of small white flowers appears in April or in May. They are followed by a few small greenish berries, very disappointing to one who has seen the brilliant scarlet fruit of the Five-leaved Ginseng. The small round tuber, deep in the ground, has a biting taste, but not the warm, pleasant flavor of the other species. The Three-leaved Ginseng is common in Eastern North America.



— 109 —
 TALINUM.
 TALINUM TERETIFOLIUM.
 JUNE.



— 110 —
 THREE-LEAVED GINSENG.
 ARALIA TRIFOLIA.
 MAY.

PLATE III.

ENCHANTER'S NIGHTSHADE. *CIRCÆA ALPINA*. (EVENING-PRIMROSE FAMILY.)

A small plant with slender creeping rootstocks, usually stoloniferous; stem weak, erect, branching; leaves opposite, long-petioled, thin, coarsely toothed, acute at apex, rounded or cordate at base; flowers few, long-pedicelled, in terminal racemes, small; petals two, white; fruit hispid, on reflexed pedicels.



IN the aforesaid, when beings from another world deigned to visit the Earth, and men held converse with good and evil genii, various herbs and simples served those who dealt in magic. Some plants had powers for good, others for ill. The witch kept her caldron aboil with weeds gathered in forest and fen. The enchanter culled potent herbs by the light of the moon wherewith to bless or blast. Both the Latin and the English name of the *Circæa* would indicate its use in sorcery. Erasmus Darwin has a note to his "Loves of the Plants" in which he mentions this tradition. Circe was the beautiful witch who well-nigh lured the wandering Ulysses from his plighted faith to Penelope.

Circæa Alpina is a small, delicate plant of deep, moist woods, common northward, frequent on the higher mountains of the Southern country. It has small white flowers, with a little pink in them. The fruit is covered with soft, curved prickles, and acts as a bur. It flowers in early summer. One would hardly look for this plant among the relatives of the Evening Primrose and the showy Willow-Herb, yet with them it justly claims alliance. It is native in Europe as well as in this country.

PLATE II2.

HAWK-WEED. *HIERACIUM VENOSUM*. (SUNFLOWER FAMILY.)

Perennial; roots fibrous, clustered; stem erect, nearly smooth, much branched, bearing only a few small, bract-like leaves; root-leaves broadly oblong or obovate, short-petioled, hairy, veins conspicuous, purple; heads numerous at the ends of the branches; flowers bright yellow, all ligulate.



HAWKWEEDS are to the European botanists what the Asters are to ours. There are almost innumerable species and varieties in the Old World, grading into each other in almost inextricable confusion. In North America we have quite a number of species, both in the East and in the West, but by no means the diversity that perplexes the transatlantic student of botany.

Hieracium Venosum is the earliest to flower of our eastern Hawkweeds. The heads of clear yellow, strap-shaped flowers open in May in the South, in June further northward. The leaves are mostly clustered at the root, lying flat on the ground. They are rather large and quite hairy. The veins are dark purple, giving an odd and very pleasing aspect to the leaf. The Veiny Hawkweed is a plant of open hillside woods and clearings, preferring a dry soil. The heads expand in the early morning, but close in the heat and glare of mid-day. Those who take their walks late in the day miss these golden flowers. This species is sometimes called Rattlesnake-weed, being one of the innumerable reputed remedies for the poison of snake-bites.



— 111 —
 ENCHANTER'S NIGHTSHADE.
CIRCÆA ALPINA.
 JULY.



— 112 —
 HAWK-WEED.
HIERACIUM VENOSUM
 AUGUST.

W. H. HATCH, Congressman, First District, Missouri, Chairman Committee of Agriculture, House of Representatives, Washington, Representative for sixteen years, Bloomington, Ill.:

"Have no doubt that the book will be valuable as a text-book, and that it will go far toward the development of a love for the beautiful."

We fully concur in the above:

B. F. FUNK, Congressman, Fourteenth District, Illinois, Graduate Wesleyan University, Ex-Mayor Bloomington.

JAS. W. MARSHALL, Congressman, Ninth District, Virginia, Graduate Roanoke College.

JNO. DAVIS, Congressman, Fifth District, Kansas, Graduate Illinois College, one of the founders of the Agricultural College, Kansas.

S. B. ALEXANDER, Congressman, Sixth District, North Carolina, Graduate University of North Carolina, Member of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Representatives, Member State Board of Agriculture.

H. M. BAKER, Congressman, Second District, New Hampshire, Graduate of Dartmouth College, Ex-State Senator, Ex-Judge Advocate-General of New Hampshire.

J. STERLING MORTON, Secretary of Agriculture of President Cleveland's Cabinet:

"I fully agree with the above, and could not do otherwise after seeing the illustrations."

JNO. S. WILLIAMS, Congressman, Fifth District, Mississippi, Graduate University of the South, Graduate University of Virginia, Graduate University of Heidelberg, Germany:

"Is one of the best things I have seen, and the illustrations of American plants and flowers, as well as the descriptions, are most complete."

G. W. SHELL, Congressman, Fourth District, South Carolina, Member of Agricultural Committee, House of Representatives:

"Is beautiful and instructive, and would be a valuable contribution."

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